Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 02 Feb 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 03 Feb 2023

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 01 Feb 2023 at 12:45

Confidence: High for occasionally unsettled pattern but lowering for the cloud detail due to its changeable nature.

Headline for Thursday 02 Feb 2023: Rather cloudy with some patchy rain, but tending to turn drier later with increased chance of limited brighter spells. Gales across higher peaks from midday.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
40%	80%	40%	20%	20%	10%	10%	<05%

Forecast for Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Weather: Overcast overnight with occasional rain, mostly light and sleety across highest peaks. A cloudy start to the day with occasional patchy light rain and drizzle, this focused across western areas of the Park, again sleety at times across highest peaks. Gradually turning drier with most staying dry for the afternoon with some limited brighter spells possible before early evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% at dawn, becoming 60% late afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain and drizzle, very poor within cloud with bases quite extensive down to 500m around dawn, lifting to be mostly above the peaks come late afternoon.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	36/44 W	38/47 W	39/49 W	33/43 W	34/44 SW	36/47 SW	38/50 SW	38/50 W	40/54 W
600	28/38 W	28/40 W	31/43 W	27/38 W	27/38 SW	28/40 SW	30/44 SW	30/43 SW	31/47 W
300	11/30 W	12/32 W	13/35 W	12/32 W	12/32 SW	13/34 SW	13/35 SW	13/35 W	15/38 W
Valley	9/25 W	12/29 W	12/29 W	12/28 W	14/30 SW	16/34 SW	14/33 SW	13/31 SW	16/34 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-6	3/-4	3/-5	2/-5	2/-5	2/-5	2/-5	2/-5	3/-4
600	4/-3	5/-1	5/-2	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	5/-1
300	6/2	6/3	7/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	7/3
Valley	7/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/6	8/5
Freezing Level*	1400m	1600m	1400m	1300m	1300m	1300m	1300m	1800m	1800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Nothing to add.

Forecast for Friday 03 Feb 2023

Weather: A cloudy day with periods of light rain and drizzle, always more persistent across western areas of the Park. Some chance of drier and brighter conditions developing late in the day.

Maximum wind: West or southwest mean 20-25mph with gusts reaching 35mph across more exposed ridges and summits, easing a little for the afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% or less becoming 30% late afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Moderate or poor in rain and drizzle, very poor within cloud with bases quite extensive down to 500m, perhaps lifting and breaking late afternoon.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 4 Celsius increasing 10 Celsius for the afternoon
At 800m: Plus 3-4 Celsius
Freezing level: Above summits

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Wednesday 1 February 2023 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:55. Full report: We ascend Helvellyn every day to report on the daily changes – which are often significant; however Wednesday's ground conditions were virtually identical to Tuesday's. Above 900m there was a skittering of fresh hail which mainly only settled on the existing snowpack adding marginally to the depth. Otherwise, owing to the altitude and aspect of the remaining snow, the snow had neither thawed nor increased since Tuesday. Snow is situated above 750m in sheltered spots and hollows with most lying above 850m on east and north facing aspects. Despite the summit temperature at midday hovering around zero degrees C, most of the snowpack was hard and icy making conditions treacherous for those venturing onto it without the necessary equipment. Much of the snow can be avoided, but there are exceptions such as the exits to both Striding and especially Swirral Edges where banks of steep, deep, and today, icy snow remain occasionally loosely covered with fresh hail. Crampons and an ice axe remain essential to anyone tackling these routes as a slip here without the means to quickly halt it could have serious consequences. The summit plateau had patches of ice either where water had frozen or where snow has been compressed by walkers' boots. Above 850m and especially above 900m some rocks were covered with verglas (thin ice). Having concentrated on the snow it must be stated that, conversely, the majority of the Lakeland fells up to, and including, summit level are now clear of snow. Cornices (snow overhangs) exist above many steep north and east facing aspects – such as along Helvellyn's summit plateau. There were signs of cracks in them so please keep well back from any such snow covered edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Given the strength of the westerly wind blowing in the direction of the steep drop and the fact that the snow was rock hard and icy it is wise to stay completely off the snow in these locations – unless wearing crampons. Despite the mild weather in the valleys, the summit temperature was around zero and the windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) well below (minus 9 degrees C at midday), so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass are all essential to safely enjoy the fells. As previously mentioned, for those attempting, or traversing, steep and exposed routes above the snowline (such as the Helvellyn edges), crampons and an ice axe remain essential. Goggles are strongly recommended to lessen the sting of any windblown hail which may be encountered. As the assessor left the hill it was raining. Unfortunately owing to the height of the cloud it was not possible to tell whether this precipitation was falling as rain, snow or hail on the highest ground. Temperature: plus 0.6 C, Maximum wind speed 40.5 mph, Wind chill: minus 9.5 C, Average wind speed: 34.1 mph

Issued at: 1245 on Wed 01 Feb 2023

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.